(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the date of last revision of WPI with details?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has initiated the process for revising the base year of WPI from 1993-94 to 2004-05 together with an enlargement of the commodity basket to better reflect the structural changes in the economy.

(c) to (e) The selection of commodity basket for the new series of WPI is under finalization with inclusion/substitution of new/emerging items based on their relative importance in economy/group-wise transactions in the base year and the availability of regular price data.

(f) WPI was last revised with effect from April, 2000 shifting base year from 1981-82 to 1993-94. Number of items and price quotations (at the level of major groups) in the previous (1981-82) and the existing (1993-94) series together with their weights is indicated below:—

Major Group	Weight		No. of items		No. of Quotations	
	1993-94	1981-82	1993-94	1981-82	1993-94	1981-82
All Commodities	100.00	100.00	435	447	1918	2371
Primary Articles	22.02	32.30	98	93	455	519
Fuel, Power, light and Lubricants	14.23	10.66	19	20	72	73
Manufactured products	63.75	57.04	318	334	1391	1779

Requests for denotifying approved SEZs

2935. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of SEZs notified and given in principle approval in the country till October, 2009, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that many companies are not evincing interest to pursue their projects and submitted applications for denotifying the approved SEZs and also converting IT SEZs into other SEZs;

(c) if so, the State-wise details of the applications received so far for denotifying and conversion;

(d) the details of land acquired so after notification, for SEZs in the country, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the details of SEZs which have acquired land but failed to develop or take up works in the SEZ, SEZ-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) In addition to seven Central Government SEZs and 12 State/Private Sector SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZ Act, 2005, formal approval has been accorded to 570 proposals out of which 346 SEZs have been notified. In principle approval has been accorded to 147 proposals. A statement containing State-wise break-up of SEZs is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Requests for de-notification by the developers have been received from 12 SEZs located in the States/UT of Delhi, Orissa, Gujarat, West Bengal, Haryana Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh out of which nine have been approved by the Board of Approval. The final denotification is allowed only on refund of duties/benefits, if any, availed by the Developer. No Case of conversion from IT SEZ to other sector has been approved.

(d) Land is a State subject. Land for SEZs is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. As per the current policy, the Board of Approval does not approve any SEZs, where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007. The total land involved for 346 notified SEZs is 41,090.31 hectares out of which 10253.98 hectares land is for the SEZs notified in Andhra Pradesh.

(e) In terms of SEZ Rules, validity of approval is for a period of three years within which time effective steps are to be taken by the developer to implement the approved proposal. On a request received from the Developer the Board of Approval can extend the validity period upto two years.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of approved Special Economic Zones

State	Formal Approvals	In-principle approvals	Notified SEZs
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	103	4	73
Chandigarh	2	0	2
Chhattisgarh	1	2	0
Delhi	1	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	0	2
Goa	7	0	3
Gujarat	50	11	30
Haryana	45	17	31
Himachal Pradesh	0	3	0

1	2	3	4
Jharkhand	1	0	1
Karnataka	52	9	29
Kerala	24	0	15
Madhya Pradesh	14	6	6
Maharashtra	109	36	58
Nagaland	2	0	1
Orissa	9	4	5
Puducherry	1	1	0
Punjab	8	7	2
Rajasthan	8	11	7
Tamil Nadu	68	18	52
Uttar Pradesh	34	5	16
Uttarakhand	3	0	2
West Bengal	24	13	11
GRAND TOTAL:	570	147	346

New base year for formulating WPI

2936. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that WPI is an important measure to monitor the movement of general level of prices in the economy used by Government, banks, industry, etc.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government is planning to take 2004-05 as new base year in formulating a new WPI;

(c) whether the Committee faced difficulty in identifying criteria of product selection, treatment of export and import, frequency of release of index and collection of price data;

(d) whether it is a fact that the data required to carry out test runs of the proposed new WPI is not yet available; and

(e) the reasons behind identifying the basket of goods which are no longer used or become obsolete or occupied by altogether different items in calculating the WPI?